

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/001941

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B60F3/00 B63B39/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B60F B63B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| X | US 3 903 831 A (BARTLETT ROBERT N ET AL) 9 September 1975 (1975-09-09) | 1-3, 6-12. |
| Y | column 4, line 23 - line 30 column 14, line 3 - line 44 | 4, 5 |
| Y | US 5 474 013 A (WITTMAYER EDWARD A) 12 December 1995 (1995-12-12) cited in the application figure 3 | 4, 5 |
| A | WO 02/45978 A (PENTECOST BARRY STEPHEN ; HOUGH JOHN ALLEY (NZ); SHILTON LOUIS EDWARD) 13 June 2002 (2002-06-13) figure 7 page 19, line 10 - line 15 | 1 |
| | ----- -/- | |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

9 September 2004

Date of making of the international search report

15/09/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentstein 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Cauderlier, F

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/GB2004/001941

| C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | |
|--|---|-------------------------|
| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. 1 |
| A | EP 0 970 825 A (AQUASTRADA INT CORP) 12 January 2000 (2000-01-12) paragraphs '0063!', '0064!'; figures 16-18 ----- | 1 |
| A | US 5 765 497 A (THOMAS MARK ANTHONY ET AL) 16 June 1998 (1998-06-16) column 2, line 26 - line 38; figure 2 ----- | 1 |
| A | US 5 755 173 A (COSTA RON ET AL) 26 May 1998 (1998-05-26) abstract; figures ----- | 1 |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/001941

| Patent document cited in search report | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
|---|---------------------|----------------------------|---|
| US 3903831 | A | 09-09-1975 | NONE |
| US 5474013 | A | 12-12-1995 | NONE |
| WO 0245978 | A | 13-06-2002 | AU 1648502 A 18-06-2002 CA 2431224 A1 13-06-2002 CN 1486253 T 31-03-2004 EP 1355793 A1 29-10-2003 JP 2004515396 T 27-05-2004 WO 0245978 A1 13-06-2002 US 2004065242 A1 08-04-2004 |
| EP 0970825 | A | 12-01-2000 | EP 0970825 A2 12-01-2000 EP 0970826 A2 12-01-2000 EP 0970827 A2 12-01-2000 EP 0970828 A2 12-01-2000 EP 0970829 A2 12-01-2000 EP 0970830 A2 12-01-2000 AT 207835 T 15-11-2001 AU 4647193 A 24-01-1994 DE 69331059 D1 06-12-2001 EP 0646081 A1 05-04-1995 WO 9400332 A1 06-01-1994 US 5570653 A 05-11-1996 US 5590617 A 07-01-1997 US 5562066 A 08-10-1996 |
| US 5765497 | A | 16-06-1998 | NONE |
| US 5755173 | A | 26-05-1998 | US 5544607 A 13-08-1996 |